

WYCOMBE ATTACK FAILS AGAIN

Sports Mail Special Report

CLAPTON 3 : WYCOMBE WAND. 2

WYCOMBE Wanderers were defeated by a strong shooting Clapton side when they met at the Spotted Dog ground this afternoon. For the fifth match in succession Wycombe forwards again failed to score—both of their goals were own goals by Clapton players.

Clapton: Locker; Wilkinson, Vichion; Roberts, Balchamber, Amas; Rog, Vibet, Cope, Norcott, Hayward.
Wycombe: K. Brown; Beck, Lewis; Ashby, Worley, D. Gale; L. Worley, Blair, Holmes, Horseman, Hyde.

Referee: Mr. T. Gadsden.

Clapton took the lead after 20 minutes. Inside right VIBET scored, beating goalkeeper Brown from close in, after receiving a defence-splitting pass.

Wycombe equalised five minutes later with a ground shot from left half Gale, which was deflected just inside the post by a defender.

Wycombe nearly added to this when centre forward Holmes almost beat the defence.

The opening stages of the game were even, with both sides creating chances, and the shooting was weak.

Wycombe inside left Horseman, though wearing the No. 10 shirt, was usually to be found partnering the right-winger. They made a useful combination but there was no further score at half-time.

Half-time: Clapton 1, Wycombe 1.

Five minutes after half-time,

Clapton regained the lead when a free kick inside the Wycombe penalty area was handled. From the penalty Clapton left half AMAS scored, but straight from the kick-off Wycombe equalised when a slow shot from Hyde was deflected past the Clapton goalkeeper by ROBERTS. It was Clapton's second own goal.

Eight minutes later, Clapton inside right VIBET scored with a tremendous, long shot of about 40 yards. It was enough to give Clapton victory.

NO COHESION

From then on, Wycombe seemed unable to find any cohesion whatsoever in their forward line. They constantly changed positions but only captain Len Worley seemed to make for goal. Left half Charlie Gale worked hard, giving his forwards ample chances, but they were content to tip-tap the ball instead of adopting Clapton's attitude of shooting from anywhere.

RESULT:

CLAPTON 3
WYCOMBE WANDERERS 2

WYCOMBE'S 2 NOT ENOUGH

Clapton 3 Wycombe W. 2

CLAPTON, playing with a dash that belied their lowly position in the Isthmian League table, went into the lead three times before they beat Wycombe Wanderers 3-2.

Wycombe were fortunate to equalise twice, for one goal was deflected by a defender and then Amos passed back into his own goal to level the scores a second time.

The home team's win was chiefly due to the fiery play, at inside right, of Channel Islander Ted Vibet who scored twice—once from a finely judged shot from 45 yards.

Vibet's first goal, from a Roberts pass, put Clapton in front after 20 minutes, but five minutes later, a shot by Wanderers' left-half Gale was deflected into the Clapton net.

The first 15 minutes of the second half was the game's champagne period—full of sparkling play, plus a penalty goal from Clapton inside left Norcott.

It was then that Roberts' unfortunate pass-back evened matters again, and Vibet's winning effort followed.

Clapton's attack lost its sting, but Wycombe could not benefit from the prompting of half-backs Gale and Ashby and there was no third equaliser.